# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HOME AFFAIRS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:60
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2001
MORE POWERS TO NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION .
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Amnesty Inter-national has asked the Government to give more powers to the National Human Rights Commission since it is playing an important role in tackling human rights abuse;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)to(c): Amnesty International (AI) in its recent report on Prevention of Torture in India has, among other things, recommended that more powers should be given to NHRC for carrying out investigations into allegations of human rights violations by members of the armed forces, visit custodial institutions without having to previously notify State officials, investigate allegations of human rights violations which took place beyond the period of one year previous to the date of complaint etc. The NHRC has separately sent a proposal suggesting amendments in various sections of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 to give effect to a number of proposed changes including the ones recommended by the AI. The proposal is being examined by the Government.